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INTERMINISTERIAL FRICTIONS IN PAPER,
TIMBER, AND FORESTRY INDUSTRIES

I. SLOW PULPWOOD DELIVERIES IRK PAPERMAKERS

A. Migulev, Dep Chief
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Wood-Processing Industry USSR

Production plans have the force of law in the USSR. Failure of one branch
of the national economy to meet its plan inevitably leads to a breakdown in the
normal activity of other branches.

An especially close economic interrelationship exists between the timber
and cellulose-paper industries. The timber industry is the sole source of raw
material for the production of cellulose and paper and, for that reason, a lag
in logging operations is reflected in the work of the cellulose and paper plants.

The papermakers have justly criticized the loggers. For a long time, the
latter have failed to meet the pulpwood delivery plan. The papermakers' griev-
ance is directed above all at the Karelo-Finnish SSR loggers, who supply raw
material for the paper industry of not only their own republic but also Lenin-
grad Oblast.

During the first 9 months of 1951, enterprises of the Ministry of Timber
Industry Karelo-Finnish SSR (Shkol'nikov, minister) met the year plan for pulp-
wood delivery only 57.3 percent. The Svetogorskiy and Vyborg cellulose-paper
combines and the Pitkyaranta and Priozero cellulose plants were particularly
inadequately supplied.

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By the end of September, the Vyborg Combine had received from the timber industry of the republic less than one third of the pulpwood planned for delivery in 1951; the Svetogorskiy Combine had received one third of the spruce pulpwood planned; the Priozero and Pitkyaranta plants had received about 40 percent of planned deliveries. The supply situation was little better in the case of the Segezha Combine.

The ministries of Timber Industry and Paper and Wood-Processing Industry had agreed on a pulpwood delivery schedule according to 10-day periods. The Karelo-Finnish loggers have systematically violated this schedule. Only strict observance of the schedule can assure uninterrupted operation of the cellulose-paper enterprises.

Sverdles (Sverdlovsk Timber) Trust has created a serious threat to rhythmic operation of the Novo-Lyalya Cellulose-Paper Combine. The supervisors of Novo-Lyalya Timber Management (Yakovlev, director; Vasil'yev, chief engineer) organized their floating operations so poorly that much of the wood felled last season has dried out along the Lyalya River, far from the combine. Its abandonment there for the winter will lead to great losses in raw material. The supervisors of Sverdles Trust and its superior organization, Glavvostles (Main Administration of Timber Industry in the Eastern Regions), are indifferent to this prospect.

The violation of the state pulpwood delivery plan by the logging organizations has resulted in a sharply curtailed supply of raw material at the cellulose-paper enterprises. The cellulose industry, which requires seasoned pulpwood, does not have the necessary 6-9 months' supply of raw material on hand. Resin shortages at enterprises operating with green pulpwood are becoming more serious, and can be eased only by a steady delivery of wood supplies.

Something should be said about the quality of pulpwood being supplied for the production of high-grade bleached cellulose. A recent check showed that the Priozero Cellulose Plant is receiving much wood from the loggers that does not meet state standards. The Ladva, Pay, and Kondopoga timber managements of Yuzhkareelles (South Karelian Timber) Trust are especially frequent violators of the GOST.

Instead of combating these bungling practices, the Karelo-Finnish Administration of Glavlesosbyt (Main Administration of Timber Sales) frequently abets the loggers in delivering substandard pulpwood. Not long ago, for example, the administration circulated among the timber managements of the republic a special order directing them to dispatch third-grade spruce pulpwood to Svetogorskiy Combine. And this in spite of the fact that a decision is in effect according to which the combine is to get only first-grade pulpwood.

The cellulose-paper industry is now engaged in socialist competition to meet the 1951 plan ahead of schedule. The loggers are under obligation to help the papermakers in meeting their assumed tasks by uninterruptedly supplying the cellulose-paper enterprises with high-quality pulpwood.

II. CUTTING-AREA ALLOTMENTS VEX LOGGERS

B. Perepechin, Dep Chief
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Min of Forestry USSR

Successful fulfillment of the fall and winter logging season plan depends largely on timely transfer of cutting areas to the logging organizations by organization of the Ministry of Forestry. Ministry of Forestry USSR organizations were obligated to effect full transfer of cutting areas in third-group forests and 60-70 percent transfer in second-group forests by 20 August.

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But, as of 20 September, enterprises of the Ministry of Timber Industry USSR had received only 91 percent of their cutting areas. Transfers had been effected at an even lower rate in the individual republics and oblasts. For example, only 71 percent of the cutting areas had been transferred in the Karelo-Finnish SSR, 70 percent in the Ukrainian SSR, 83 percent in Ivanovo Oblast, 84 percent in Gor'kiy Oblast, and 70 percent in Mari ASSR.

The Ministry of Forestry Karelo-Finnish SSR was not able to cope with the problem of timely transfer and preparation of the cutting areas; on the other hand, the logging enterprises of the republic were in no hurry to take over new cutting areas since there was still much uncut timber in their old areas.

The Monza Timber Management in Vologda Oblast hedged for a long time from accepting a new cutting area because it still had a large amount of timber to be cut in 1951 and was far behind in meeting its gross production plan.

The Kichmengsko-Gorodets, Tarnogskiy, Mikhaylovskiy, and Totma forestry managements of the Vologda Oblast Forestry Administration were unable to effect timely allotment and transfer of cutting areas to the loggers. An official of the Main Administration of Northern and Northwestern Forests was detailed to go there, and he took effective measures on the spot. As a result, the cutting-area preparation plan for Vologda Oblast had been met 104 percent as of 10 September.

Despite the fact that all cutting areas in Ukrainian SSR forests have been allotted, their transfer to the timber managements is proceeding very slowly. Timber industry and forestry workers are quarreling about the quality of tree stands and cannot agree on the transfer of cutting areas.

Some logging organizations are making demands which are not consistent with existing forestry rules. Lenles (Leningrad Timber) Trust, for example, demanded allotment of cutting areas for its enterprises in overripe stands, with the right to cut outside of the designated areas and to cease turpentineing of pine trees. Naturally, the Leningrad Oblast Forestry Administration could not agree to these demands. Such demands give rise to unnecessary meetings, require the taking down of many pages of minutes, and lead to the writing of appeals to higher organizations. At the same time, preparatory work in the new cutting areas makes no progress.

Demands for allotment of cutting areas in localities already cut over are occurring in Leningrad, Sverdlovsk, Gor'kiy, and other oblasts. Instead of moving their enterprises to new areas, logging organizations are insisting on cutting-area allotments at the old places.

Many logging enterprises are refusing to accept cutting areas in which deciduous species predominate. On occasion, it has been permitted to leave deciduous species standing in some heavily forested areas when timber transport is carried out by the free floating method. However, permission to let the wood of deciduous species remain unutilized cannot be granted in Leningrad, Novgorod, Pskov, Velikiye Luki, and Gor'kiy oblasts and the Mari, Tatar, and Bashkir ASSRs.

Forestry organs are amiss in their duties when they fail to demand that loggers use rational bucking methods so as to produce the maximum amount of industrial timber (delovoy les). Sometimes they even underrate the amount of industrial wood (delovaya drevesina) in a cutting area when making the valuation survey.

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According to the valuation survey, the yield of industrial wood in the 1952 cutting areas of Novgorod Oblast was rated at only 51 percent, while the actual yield in 1950 was 58 percent. Other valuation survey ratings of industrial wood yield in 1952 cutting areas are: Bashkir ASSR, 41 percent; Tatar ASSR, 30 percent; Kuybyshev Oblast, 29 percent. Unfortunately, many timber industry and forestry workers think that deciduous species must be utilized mostly for firewood. This attitude is contrary to the interests of the national economy.

The Chita Oblast Forestry Administration had in good time prepared 1952 cutting areas containing 170,000 cubic meters of wood for Zilovskiy Timber Management. When the time came to transfer the cutting areas, Chitles (Chita Timber) Trust informed the forestry administration that Zilovskiy Timber Management had been liquidated. Thus, the labor expended in allotting the cutting areas was wasted.

Many logging organizations inadequately utilize the cutting areas in raw material bases assigned to them, while at the same time organizing operations on annual allotments of timberland outside their bases. Raw material bases capable of providing 450,000 cubic meters of timber annually have been assigned to the enterprises of the Ministry of Transportation in Kurgan Oblast. But while not utilizing these cutting areas, these logging organizations urgently demand annual supplementary allotments in the Kurgan-Okunev Forest Massif.

Similarly, while poorly utilizing its assigned raw material bases in Leningrad Oblast, the Ministry of River Fleet is at the same time carrying on extensive logging operations on annual allotments of timberland.

Because of the large number of logging organizations operating in some oblasts (Gor'kiy, Novgorod, Kostroma, and others), the necessity does arise to make annual cutting-area allotments to logging organizations within raw material bases assigned to other organizations. In such cases, the forestry management supervisors should take all necessary measures to assure that the places where annual cutting areas are allotted have been approved by the holders of the bases and that there is no interference with normal mechanized timber haulage operations of the holders of the bases.

Forestry and timber industry workers are under obligation to each other to solve their still remaining differences as soon as possible, so that each logging enterprise will be provided with a cutting area.

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